Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 DHA-02 SCCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 ACDA-07 SIL-01 LAB-04

COME-00 EB-07 /093 W

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R 221437Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5466

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB PFOR EG

SUBJECT: ICATU JOINS IN CRITICISM OF SYRIA

- 1. ALL PAPERS JULY 22 REPORT STATEMENT CONDEMNING SYRIA BY EXTRAORDINARY CONFERENCE OF ICATU JULY 21. CONFERENCE DEMANDED WITHDRAWAL OF SYRIAN FORCES AND URGED SETTLEMENT BETWEEN PALESTINIANS AND SYRIANS. STATEMENT ALSO CALLED ON ARAB WORKERS TO VOLUNTEER FOR RANKS OF "PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION AND LEBANESE NATIONAL MOVEMENT."
- 2. DELEGATION REPRESENTED GENERAL FEDERATION OF PALESTINIAN WORKERS REPORTEDLY TOLD CONFERENCE THAT SYRIANS HAVE EXECUTED 10 SYRIAN PILOTS WHO REFUSED TO BOMB PALESTINIANS IN LEBANON. AMONG THOSE EXECUTED, ACCORDING TO PALESTINIAN DELEGATION, WAS WING COMMANDER BADR AL-ZUGHBI. SYRIANS ACCUSED OF HAVING DETAINED OR IMPRISONED MORE THAN 20,000 OPPONENTS OF ASAD REGIME. THESE ACCUSATIONS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MADE IN PRESENCE OF SYRIAN DELEGATION LED BY MAHMOUD

HADID, HEAD OF GENERAL WORKERS FEDERATION AND MEMBER OF REGIONAL COMMAND OF SYRIAN BA'ATH PARTY. HIS REACTION TO ICATU AND PALESTINIAN STATEMENTS NOT REPORTED.

3. COMMENT: IT HIGHLY LIKELY THAT EGYPTIAN ICATU SECGEN BULTIYA WAS BEHIND CALLING OF CONFERENCE AND PUSHED HARD FOR ANTI-SYRIAN STATEMENT AT GOE BEHEST. EILTS

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